

third and more numerous body of Starlings passed the boat with great dispatch, taking the same path as their congeners had done, which we had the good fortune to recognize so clearly in the early part of the evening.

The incident in the history of the Starling to which reference is made, pretty clearly evinces, at least to my mind, that this species of *Sturnus* is migratory in the autumnal months, performing, as it certainly does, a change of situation at that season of the year, in congregated masses and numerous bands, like some other birds belonging to the fauna of these islands. On this matter most of our own monographers have maintained a marked silence, as if ignorant in that respect, as I have said, of the peculiar wandering habit and manners of Larry Sterne's captive bird.

In this part of the kingdom the Starling abounds, especially in our retired woodlands, whole broods being reared in such places annually; the nest of the creature being placed in holes of decayed timber-trees of our thickly wooded parks, likewise within the holes and crevices of ancient buildings, church towers, and ruins, where protection and safety are afforded it during the period of nidification.

For many years past I have not failed to notice its manners throughout the whole autumn and winter season, and in so doing, have ever been led to mark the invariable increase made by the bird in its numerical diffusion at that period.

It has been with me a settled point, for many years past, that a very considerable migration of the species takes place annually; but hitherto such speculation was mere conjecture on my part. I had no proof whatever, by me, of its actual performance. However, in my passage across the Straits in the month of September last, the fact which I have briefly narrated in my letter, fails not to establish unequivocally the migration of the Starling, but proves, moreover, the adoption of its brumal retreat on these shores.

BRITISH AMPHIPODA.

To the Editors of the Annals of Natural History.

Plymouth, Feb. 16, 1857.

GENTLEMEN,—Having had an opportunity, since the publication of the Synopsis of the British Amphipoda, of comparing the necessary works at the British Museum, I am enabled to make the following corrections and addenda:—

After *O. littorea* read (Leach).

After *O. Deshayesii* read (Savigny).

Acanthonotus Owenii (mihi) is *A. testudo* of (Montagu).

Thersites (mihi) must yield to *Bathyporeia* (Lindström), and probably the species *B. Guilliansonia* is the *pilosa* of that naturalist.

Leucothoë procera (mihi) is probably *furina* of Savigny; and also the genus *Dyopedos* (mihi) is *Dulichia* of Kröyer; consequently the family *Dyopedidæ* will for the future be changed to *Dulichiadæ*.

I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

C. SPENCE BATE.